

News Briefs

Memorial ceremony, fund

♦ The 52nd Fighter Wing will hold a memorial for 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters Senior Airman Timothy R. Alford and Airman 1st Class Erik I. Salazar in Hangar 1 today at 10 a.m. All are encouraged to attend.

♦ The Community Banks at Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex have set up an Airmen Alford and Salazar Memorial Fund. Dispersion of funds is managed by Senior Master Sgt Ron Manning, 52nd CES first sergeant. Use "Ronald Manning" on checks. Money can be funnelled to unit first sergeants or visit either Community Bank branch. The money will be used for Airmen Alford's and Salazar's family needs and expenses.

Safety stand down

U.S. Air Forces in Europe has directed a safety stand down Monday. Commanders will take this opportunity to focus attention on protecting the most vital assets -- USAFE people and their families. All USAFE units will refrain from flying and other activities for a period of one half day. Commanders can locally determine specific times and activities tailored to their mission requirements. The stand down is geared toward re-evaluating the risks associated with summer activities and instituting sound measures to protect USAFE members. See supervisors for more information.

Changes of command

♦ Lt. Col. John Sepanski relinquishes command of the 22nd Fighter Squadron to Lt. Col. Russell Quinn today at 3:22 p.m. in Hangar 1.

♦ Lt. Col. John Specht relinquishes command of the 23rd Fighter Squadron to Lt. Col. William Woodcock Aug. 26 at 3:23 p.m. in Hangar 3.

Induction ceremony

The senior NCO induction ceremony takes place Aug. 20 at 6 p.m. for cocktails, and 7 p.m. for dinner in Club Eifel. The deadline to purchase tickets is Aug. 15. Call squadron first sergeants for tickets. The event honors all Spangdahlem AB and geographically-separated unit master sergeant selects who will be formally inducted into the SNCO core.

Tier II meeting

The next Tier II meeting for E-5 selects, E-5s and E-6s takes place Thursday in the Club Eifel fine dining room from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

52nd MDG closure

The 52nd Medical Group will be closed for training Aug. 25 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. People in need of emergency care should go to the Bitburg Annex emergency room. Call 452-8333 for more information.

A-10 grand celebration

Spangdahlem AB jets fly into history in Romania.

Read "Spang A-10 achieves 10,000 flying hours," on Page 4



Eifel Times

Vol. 39, Issue 27

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

Aug. 5, 2005



Senior Airman Amaani Lyle

Wing CC urges Team Eifel to seek hope, solace after loss

By Col. Dave Goldfein
52nd Fighter Wing commander

On Monday, we lost two members of our Saber family, Senior Airman Timothy R. Alford and Airman 1st Class Erik I. Salazar. While we can never get these young men back, we can and should celebrate their lives and reflect on their loss and what it means to all of us.

This week, Sabers from across the wing and friends from around the world have been sending in testimonials about their friends, Tim and Erik, which will be collected for their families. Tim was a diehard Boston Red Sox fan -- you didn't want to wear your Yankees ball cap around him. Erik was quite an athlete who was training for the firefighter challenge cup. Both were well-respected members of our world-class "firedawg" team. They were sons, brothers, co-workers, friends, fellow Airmen ... we will miss them greatly.

Many firefighter Airmen work a 24-hour shift on alternate days. In essence, these firefighters live together, work together and play together. When duty calls, they put their lives on the line to keep us safe.

Still, when tragedy such as this strikes, we're left with more questions than answers, so we turn to faith and the camaraderie our firefighters share to help pull us through.

So what now? Do we leave the memorial ceremony, shed our tears and move on? Do Tim and Erik become a distant memory over time? Or do we turn this terrible tragedy into something posi-

tive for our community? My hope is that we do the latter.

We can pay tribute to these fine Airmen by sharing with each other the love, laughter and memories that they brought to our community and that, as attested to in the scores of letters we've received, resonated around the world.

We may never truly know what happened in the final moments of Tim and Erik's life. We do know we have lost two members of our Saber family, and it hurts. Let's keep them and their families not only in our prayers but also in our minds. Memorize their faces if you didn't know them. Read the reflections on Page 3 that share stories of their hopes and dreams and the impact they had on all who knew them.

Let us resolve together that we will honor Airmen Alford's and Salazar's memory by internalizing safety and risk management into our daily lives and teaching it to our fellow Airmen. Let their untimely deaths prevent a future tragedy. I can think of no better way to honor our fallen comrades.

Let them help

Anyone in need of emotional or spiritual assistance can call the following agencies:

52nd Fighter Wing Chaplain Services: 452-6711

Life Skills: 452-8285

Spangdahlem AB Family Support Center: 452-6422

Spangdahlem mourns loss of two Airmen

By Capt. Tom Crosson
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Two Airmen assigned to the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron's fire protection flight died and one was injured in a single-vehicle automobile accident Monday morning on A-27 near St. Vith, Belgium. There were no other injuries reported in the accident.

The two deceased Airmen are Senior Airman Timothy R. Alford and Airman 1st Class Erik I. Salazar. Airman 1st Class Skyler Burts was treated and released from a local hospital.

The cause of the accident is currently under investigation by Belgian and U.S. Air Force law enforcement personnel.

"Our prayers and thoughts go out to the families and friends of these Airmen," said Col. David Goldfein, 52nd Fighter Wing commander. "We are doing everything we can to provide emotional and spiritual support to Team Eifel. The entire Saber team is fully engaged to respond and recover from this terrible loss."

Base medical and support personnel have been assisting Spangdahlem AB personnel and their families. Agencies such as the wing chaplain, life skills and the family support center have established around-the-clock access to their agencies to support anyone who requires emotional or spiritual assistance. Representatives from the services squadron and base legal office

have also stepped up to help assist the deceased Airmen's families with personal, legal and logistical issues.

Chief Master Sgt. Robert Ward, 52nd CES fire and emergency services flight chief, said he was moved by the outpouring of support.

"This is truly remarkable," Chief Ward said. "The condolences are coming in not only from Spangdahlem (Air Base), but literally from all over the world -- even downrange."

A memorial service to honor the lives of Airmen Alford and Salazar will be held at 10 a.m. today in hangar 1. The entire base is invited to attend the service.

RESCON

Watch

BRAVO

1-2 DUIs in the Last 30 Days

Days since last DUI: 6

Rank of last DUI: senior airman
Squadron of last DUI: 52nd EMS

Large unit with best record: 52nd Communications Squadron, 162 days
Small units with best record: 52nd Medical Support Squadron, 52nd Dental Squadron and 52nd Contracting Squadron: No DUIs

Data Courtesy of the 52nd SFS

When going out, have a plan or call Airmen Against Drunk Driving at 06565-61-2233.

Spang A-10 achieves 10,000 flying hours

Story and photo by 2nd Lt. Shannon Collins
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

One of the 52nd Fighter Wing's A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft flew into history July 22, becoming the first A-10 in U.S. Air Forces in Europe and the sixth A-10 in the Air Force to achieve 10,000 flying hours.

Col. Scott West, 52nd FW vice commander, had the honor of flying tail number 952 as it achieved 10,000 hours of flight time.

"(One of) the reasons this A-10 reached 10,000 hours is because of the superb work of the maintenance professionals who worked on it from the time it was delivered to the Air Force in 1982 at Royal Air Force Bentwaters, England, until it flew its 10,000th hour," said the colonel. "Flying 10,000 hours in a fighter is significant, and says a lot about the 20 or so dedicated crew chiefs and the many other maintainers who have taken care of it, as well as all of our aircraft."

And, it's not just a large milestone for the aircraft itself, but also for the members who maintained the fighter, said Tech. Sgt. Steven Pierik, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron 81st Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chief.

"It's a big milestone for the A-10, so I'm glad I could be a part of it; it's exciting," said Sergeant Pierik, who has been maintaining A-10s for seven years. "You put a lot of work into

the aircraft, so to see it go that far, it makes you feel pretty good."

This sentiment is not only true of the current personnel maintaining tail number 952, but also applies to troops who have worked on the aircraft previously.

"When I saw it hit 10,000 hours, it touched me; it's kind of like your baby," said Staff Sgt. Jeremy Stewart, currently assigned as quality assurance for the 52nd Maintenance Group and was a former dedicated crew chief for the aircraft during Operation Enduring Freedom. "I may no longer be the DCC, but I'll still keep tabs on it."

The A-10 Thunderbolt II is the first Air Force aircraft specifically designed for close air support of ground forces. They are effective, survivable twin-engine jet aircraft that can be used against all ground targets, including tanks and other armored vehicles.

"The A-10 has served the Air Force well," said Colonel West. "In the past, it's sometimes been considered a niche airplane we no longer need, but the Thunderbolt II has repeatedly proven itself well suited for the requirements of combat."

About 3,000 of the hours racked up by tail number 952 have been combat, having been flown in Operations Iraqi Freedom, OEF, Northern Watch and Allied Force.



Tech. Sgt. Steven Pierik, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron 81st Aircraft Maintenance Unit dedicated crew chief for A-10 Thunderbolt II tail number 952, signals to Col. Scott West, 52nd Fighter Wing vice commander, as he performs pre-flight checks. Tail number 952 flew into history as it achieved 10,000 flying hours July 22. It is the first A-10 in U.S. Air Forces in Europe and the sixth A-10 in the Air Force to achieve this feat.

"I find it ironic that the oldest person flying in this squadron is flying its oldest jet, but I'm not using a walker yet and certainly tail number 952 is a long way from its walker, as are the rest of the A-10s in the fleet," said the

colonel. "They've got a lot of life left, and the Air Force is putting a lot of resources toward sustaining them. They are a great operational asset to the Air Force and the Department of Defense."

Spang Airmen train with Romanians in first-ever exercise

Story and photo by 2nd Lt. Shannon Collins
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

CONSTANTA, Romania -- Approximately 160 Airmen from Spangdahlem Air Base helped execute the first-ever Air Force fighter training mission in Constanta, Romania, July 18-31.

The two-week combined exercise, named ROMEX '05, brought U.S. Army and Air Force members together with Ministry of National Defense Romania personnel, and offered the opportunity to anchor ties and improve alliance partnerships within NATO.

Nearly 1,500 U.S. and Bulgarian Soldiers trained in Romania's Babadag Training Area while the 160 Airmen operated jets from Mihail Kogalniceanu Base an hour away.

"As part of the Secretary of Defense's initiative to enhance the Department's global posture, European-based forces are looking east for operational training opportunities," said Col. Scott West, 52nd Fighter Wing vice commander. "We're conducting more training with our newest NATO partners located in the former Soviet Union. We want to prepare for operations together as a NATO team."

As part of the training mission, A-10 pilots from the 81st Fighter Squadron, received a unique opportunity -- they got to fly against MiG-21s in Romanian territory; the first time Americans have ever done this.

"It was tough because they were kind of hard to see, but it was exciting," said Capt. Brian Miller, 81st FS pilot, who flew in the first two-ship.

After the Air Force pilots flew against the MiGs, the pilots



Airmen 1st Class Johnny Powell and Kalilimoku Hunt, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron 81st Aircraft Maintenance Unit A-10 weapons loaders, use an ammunition loading assembly to load 30mm rounds into an A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft during ROMEX '05 in Romania July 25. The A-10s from the 81st Fighter Squadron trained on shooting the 30mm Gatlin gun, dropping bomb dummy units and practiced low-level flying.

and commanders gathered as a team to debrief and watch each other's 8mm tapes of the operation.

"I never thought I would see the day when I would be sitting in my debrief facility, watching an American put his videotape in our machine, and we were able to watch it," said Air Flotilla

General Victor Strimbeanu, 86th Air Base, Romanian air force. "We are starting to see cooperation and teamwork build."

Colonel West said the combined and joint training has been successful.

"It's been an outstanding, positive, cooperative relationship between U.S. forces and the Romanian military," he said. "They are very professional, and I can't say enough positive things about our ability to train here in Romania in a variety of different training scenarios."

While the American pilots trained with their Romanian counterparts, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters trained civilian Romanian firefighters on scenarios they face during ground or in-flight emergencies. At the Melina Range, Air Force terminal attack controllers worked with U.S. Army Soldiers along with a few Romanian military members, conducting training on their job of calling in and directing close air support aircraft.

For Master Sgt. Michael Smith, 52nd AMXS 81st AMU production superintendent, the two-week experience was a real eye-opener.

"As soon as we got off the plane and went to a briefing, the Romanian base commander said, 'We've been waiting for you since 1945.' It really struck home, all of the years of communism they endured," he said.

"It was great to get that kind of reception," Sergeant Smith continued. "For them to open their arms up and let us come into their country and do this is amazing. Hopefully, we'll get to do more missions like these in the future."

Adopt an Airman:

By Senior Airman Eydie Sakura
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

In the spirit of promoting long-lasting friendships, the 52nd Fighter Wing's youngest Airmen will meet for the first time with German families Aug. 12 who will open their homes to them through the base's Adopt an Airman program.

The new program, designed to encourage on-going cultural exchange between Americans and our German hosts, has already gained the interest of more than 50 local families who heard about Adopt an Airman through their local newspapers and town officials. Currently, about 800 Airmen are eligible for the program.

"This is a great opportunity for local families to learn about American culture, practice English and share German experiences with young Airmen by inviting them into their homes or out for special occasions," said Bernhard Schaefer, 52nd FW Community Relations chief. "In turn, it's a great opportunity for younger Airmen to learn first-hand about German culture and language."

Providing first term Airmen with a genuine German experience is key to establishing and maintaining long-lasting friendships.

"We want to offer a constructive environment and encourage Airmen who are away from home to get out of the dorm and experi-

New wing-sponsored program encourages cultural exchange, building friendships between first term Airmen, local German families this summer

ence the European culture," said Chief Master Sgt. Jimmy Kelly, 52nd FW command chief master sergeant. "We want to facilitate an enriching and on-going cultural exchange between Americans and our German hosts."

Extending an invitation out to the German local nationals was easy, and many families have expressed an interest in the program, Mr. Schaefer said.

"When I read about the Adopt an Airman program, I thought it was a very good idea, and a very fun idea," said Mrs. Jill Bollig, Trittenheim native and owner of a local winery. "We always see the jets fly overhead, but nobody in Trittenheim really knows what

goes on at the air base or why Americans are here. It's a good opportunity for us to learn more about you, and we just love meeting new people."

A retired teacher from Bitburg, Mr. Werner Pies, shares Mrs. Bollig's thoughts on the Adopt an Airman program and thinks it is a good idea.

"I'm very interested in learning about other cultures and creating international friendships," he said. "I want to support the air base and I look forward to showing an Airman around the area."

(Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey, 52nd FW/PA, contributed to this story)

Remembering Spangdahlem's 'Firedawgs'

Sabers, friends from around world share memories, prayers for Senior Airman Timothy Alford and Airman 1st Class Erik Salazar

"Tim and Erik, you leave behind family and many friends -- of which I am one -- who will miss you dearly. You take with you your country's sincere admiration for your dedicated service and devotion to protecting and preserving its ideals and institutions ... you will also be held in the highest esteem for being exemplary examples of the Air Force Fire Protection motto: 'Desire to Serve ... Ability to Perform ... Courage to Act.' God Bless." -- Chief Master Sgt. Robert Ward, 52nd CES fire chief

"Euripides said, 'There is in the worst of fortune the best of chances for a happy change.' As sad as this time is for close friends and family, happiness is a distant emotion. However, I truly believe only God knows the best plan for our lives and those we recently lost. On behalf of the 52nd CES, our prayers and blessing are with the friends and family who must live with the loss of two of our special Airmen, for they are now in good hands." -- Chief Master Sgt. Roger Austin, 52nd CES

"It saddens me to hear about the loss of two members of one of the finest fire and emergency services flights and wings in the Air Force. I served as their chief for most of my tour at Spangdahlem AB. Their families are in our prayers. I remember when Airman Alford arrived to Spangdahlem. We needed a person to work in our extinguisher maintenance shop and he stepped up to complete the task before we deployed him to Kuwait, where he did an excellent job in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. I also wish Airman Burts a speedy recovery." -- George J. Chambers III (Chief Master Sergeant, ret.)

"Your lives, although too short, brought enjoyment to all those around you. I am sure from where you sit, you can see all the lives you both touched. Tim, thanks for always stepping up and mentoring the young Airmen. Eric, thanks for the soccer memories, and if they have e-mail, remember no chain letters. I will miss the both of you dearly." -- Senior Master Sgt. Michael Cavaliero, 52nd CES deputy fire chief

Tim, mix-matched socks and long shorts -- that's what I will remember. I have lost a little brother, but gained an angel. Our conversations I will always cherish. There will always be a place in my heart for you. One day we shall meet again. -- Tech. Sgt. Roderick Millbrooks, 52nd CES

"Tim would want us to celebrate not grieve. He will always be my brother and he will always be remembered. As firefighters, we are prepared for death on a daily basis, so we are always ready when we are called home." -- Chevis Vaughn

"Tim, I miss you and wish that I could have spent more time with you. You are a true friend who helped me through a lot. I know you're looking down on us and wishing the best. Thank you for the times of laughter. Do not worry about us, as we will take care of each other. Love you." -- Fihya Diamond

"Timothy was a good man and a good friend. He will be sincerely missed. At least he got to see the Red Sox win it." -- John Brownfield

"My thoughts and prayers go out to the family, friends and fire department for their loss. May God shower you with strength and provide you comfort during this difficult time." -- Staff Sgt. Q-Anna Taylor, 52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron

"My thoughts and prayers go out to everyone in the 52nd CES fire department." -- Airman 1st Class Stephanie Bowen, Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea

"Tim and Erik, I am so sorry I did not get to say goodbye, but please know that the memories you have both given me will never be forgotten! You will be greatly missed! Love always." -- Jenna W.

"Airmen Alford and Salazar were two remarkable individuals. Their smiling faces will be missed at the clubs, the dorm, and most of all at the firehouse. My prayers go out to their friends and family. May they

rest in peace." -- Senior Airman Elisa Nikolic, 52nd MSS

"Erik was a great man who lived every day to the fullest. He was always the first to help others at work and the first to bring people together outside of work. His positive attitude and zest for life made us all better people for having known him. I will miss and never forget you, brother." -- Senior Airman Dave Megorden, 52nd CES

"Airman Alford had a smile that can brighten up anyone's day. He loved to joke and laugh and is the kind of friend anyone would want to have. He is a very compassionate individual and never put himself first. Airman Alford will be greatly missed but remembered for the rest of my life." -- Staff Sgt. Omeaterance Mewborn, 52nd MSS ALS

"May your faith be of comfort to you during this difficult time. Please know that you are in our prayers." -- The Lewis Family

"There isn't much better in this life than finding a way to spend a few hours in conversation with people you respect and love. You have to carve this time out of your life

because you aren't really living without it." -- Staff Sgt. Christian Rodriguez, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron

"Tim, you know that you are my heart, a big piece of my life. You'll be missed and always remembered. You already know this, but I love you so much, Tim, with all my heart, and I always will!" -- Airman 1st Class Amber Boynton, 52nd MSS

"Erik always had a smile on his face, and lived his life to the fullest. We will always remember him and what an impact he had on all of us." -- Airman 1st Class Zachary Hedquist, 52nd CES

"Tim was a true man before all else. Our thoughts, prayers and love are with your family, your partners and most of all, you. I am a better man for knowing you. I'll miss you 'Red.' Much love." -- Staff Sgts. Joel and Karen Harr and Brayden, Goodfellow AFB, Texas

"The Minot Air Force Base, N.D., Fire and Emergency Services Flight send our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Tim and Erik. As firefighters, we are all brothers and sisters, and when one mourns, we feel it throughout our profession. We'll keep you in our prayers and ask God to give you comfort and peace during this time of bereavement. Airman Burts, we wish you a speedy recovery. Our flight is standing by to assist you in any way." -- Senior Master Sgt. Roy Nelson, Minot AFB, N.D.

"I would like to thank God for Tim being in our lives. I remember me, you, PJ, and Burts hanging out. Now you're gone, and a part is missing. God called one of his angels home, but we were blessed. We'll always love and miss you." -- Senior Airman Angela Thomas and Airman 1st Class Rogdrequis Thomas, Eglin AFB, Fla.

We were only acquaintances, but every time our paths did cross, he was always smiling and always asked how things were going ... and really wanted to know. He had a way of brightening up your day, and I'll always remember him that way. Senior Airman Brooke Brannon, 52nd Command Post and Kris Brannon, former 52nd CES firefighter

Please give my condolences to their families and allow my prayers to echo yours during this time of grief. I was just describing Tim's good demeanor and sense of humor to one of my troops. Tell Skyler I am praying for his recovery. I think of the firehouse frequently, wishing I could still be a part of the finest brotherhood I've ever known. My thoughts and prayers will be with you all. -- Staff Sgt. Christopher Shaw, Sheppard AFB, Texas

"It goes without saying that the men of Restless Heart

as well as myself are saddened by the news. We pray for the families of all three men and pray that Skyler recovers completely. May God rest the souls of Timothy and Erik and heal the wounds left in the hearts of their families, friends and co-workers." -- David Wilkerson

"Our hearts, thoughts and prayers go out to our brother and sisters of the Spangdahlem AB fire department and the family members of those lost. Your brothers in the fire service." Mark S. Hetzel, Sr. and the members of Green Township Professional Firefighters, IAFF L-2927.

"My sincerest sympathies on the loss of your friends. I had the opportunity to visit a group of Spangdahlem AB firefighters in Kirkuk, Iraq, in December 2004. They graciously assisted me in producing a story for American Forces Network Iraq, and I immediately sensed what a closely-knit group they are. You are all in my thoughts and prayers." -- Tech. Sgt. Bill Scherer, Defense Information School, Fort Meade, Md.

"My prayers are with Erik and his family. I went to tech school with Erik, and was stationed with him at Laughlin AFB, Texas. We all miss you very much, Erik. Peace be with you." -- Airman 1st Class Brian Ford, Laughlin AFB, Texas

"Each person who serves in the U.S. military is indeed a very special person and will be missed. No one knows why things happen as they do, and none of us knows what tomorrow will bring. Life on Earth is precious but temporary ... memories last forever. Let the memories you've shared with these wonderful men live in your hearts forever. -- Marlene Bundy, Pittsburgh, Pa.

"My heart breaks for these two heroes and their loved ones who will need a lot of support and strength to get through such a difficult time. Always keep the faith and know that these two wonderful human beings will forever be embedded in your heart and in your memories." -- Anne Galvan, Los Angeles, Calif.

"I trust and pray to my fire department family that you

will all rise above and continue being one of the best departments I have ever been proud to be a part of. God bless you all, my fellow brothers." -- Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Schermann, Balad AB, Iraq

"All Air Force Special Operations Command firefighters share in your grief during this time of sadness. Our prayers go out to the families of Airmen Alford and Salazar as well as to the fire department family at Spangdahlem AB." -- Master Sgt. David Tijerina, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

"Our hearts break along with yours. All of you will be in our prayers." -- Susan Deer, Cincinnati, Ohio

"My heart aches for you, and you will remain in my thoughts and prayers. I pray that the pain you feel can be, in some part, eased by the feeling of pride for the valor and deep sense of patriotism these men displayed." -- Pat Shoukry, New York City

"Erik said to me, 'you have to live every day like it's your last,' and I know he did. Tim was a great guy and could put a smile on anybody's face. I'm going to miss you, brothers." -- Airman 1st Class John Black, 52nd CES

"My condolences to the family members of the firefighters who have passed on." -- Chief Master Sgt. Nicholas S. Demko Sr., Dobbins AFB, Ga.

"Our prayers go out to the families of our fallen brothers and the members of Spangdahlem AB Fire and Emergency Services during this difficult time." -- Tinker Fire and Emergency Services, Oklahoma City, Okla.

"I am also a firefighter, and it is always sad to hear that we have lost someone in the Air Force, especially a fellow firefighter. My sympathy goes out to the families of those firefighters." -- Ashton Dellande, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

"Tim was a friend of mine when he was at Little Rock AFB. Tim, Erik and their families are in my prayers." -- Airman 1st Class Kelly Pierce, Little Rock AFB, Ark.



Senior Airman
Timothy R. Alford



Airman 1st Class
Erik I. Salazar



Staff Sgt. Connie Bias

Honoring their own

MANAS AIR BASE, Kyrgyzstan -- 376th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters gather at Fire Station 1 here for a memorial service Thursday for two Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, firefighters who died Monday in a vehicle accident near the Germany-Belgium border. Air Force fire stations around the world honored Senior Airman Tim Alford and Airman 1st Class Erik Salazar, 52nd CES Fire and Emergency Services Flight, with traditional fire department honors, which include the ringing of a ceremonial bell, a firehouse dispatch signal and 30 seconds of silence.

Airman loses stripes, gains bars in drug conviction

Drug offender remains loyal to Air Force that made him pay for his choices in dormitory narcotics sting

By Senior Airman Amaani Lyle
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

People who raise their right hand in allegiance to the military know this promise inherently calls for resolute fearlessness.

Last summer; however, one Airman's involvement with narcotics made him realize there is a fine line between courage and audacity.

"I just honestly thought I could never get caught," said 20-year-old Airman Basic Jake Hawkins, formerly a 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron pavement and equipment apprentice, now a Mannheim Correctional Facility prisoner.

Airman Hawkins left his family home in Spencer, Ind., at the pivotal age of 17 with the same composite of nervousness, excitement and hope shared by many young men and women beginning their adult life.

"Right after 9/11, I accelerated all my high school testing so I could finish school early and join the military," he said. "It was such a great feeling to hear people say, 'that boy's doing something positive with his life.'"

Now, one of the last things Airman Hawkins hears each night is the latch of the steel door -- a constant reminder of his imprisonment for the introduction onto a military installation, illegal use and distribution of the popular club drug "Ecstasy."

Following tips from a couple of his friends and a subsequent months-long investigation by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Airman Hawkins was apprehended July 29, 2004, in a dormitory sting transaction with an informant.

While he should have been on permanent change of station status this summer to Moody Air Force Base, Ga., his plans were instead thwarted by what he describes as shuffled priorities.

"I've definitely learned my lesson, and my priorities are straight now," Airman Hawkins said. "I'm all about supporting my family."

The stakes were much higher than he thought.

Airman Hawkins said his lapse in judgment cost him the opportunity to see the birth of his twins this year. His reaction to the conviction seems almost unexpected in light of the consequences.

"In a way, getting busted was the best thing that ever happened to me," he said. "I still love the Air Force -- I just got involved with the wrong environment, the wrong crowd. I was more worried about myself than my future."

The Airman said his future seemed, at best, uncertain once Air Force officials became aware of his drug use.

"Airman Hawkins just about came to tears when he realized that this situation was very real, and he could lose everything he held close to heart -- his job, his family, everything," said his flight chief, Master Sgt. Thomas Bathe, 52nd CES pavements and equipment section chief and Airman Hawkins' second line supervisor.

"I'm only sorry that when he was first presented the choice to use drugs or not, he didn't apply the standard of responsibility he's now brought to the forefront of his life," Sergeant Bathe said.

This very choice is one that an increasing number of adolescents must make each day. The opportunity to encounter Ecstasy grows in proportion to the staggering rate of its manufacture.

According to the Drug Enforcement Agency Web site, the DEA seized more than three million pills in 2000, with most of the pills likely manufactured in illegal pharmacies in western Europe. The drug can make its way into the hands of as many as 10 percent of people ages 12 to 24.

"The majority of the world's Ecstasy continues to be produced in laboratories in the Netherlands and, to a lesser extent, Belgium," said Steven Casteel, DEA assistant administrator for intelligence. "Given the increasingly global demand for the drug and the high-profit potential derived from its sale, production will likely expand to other areas in the future."

With Ecstasy being detected in more than 900 urinalysis tests conducted by the Department of Defense in 2001, the numbers show that Ecstasy pills are slipping past the gates of military installations just as easily as they bypass schoolyard fences.

Wherever drugs may end up, Sergeant Bathe said the responsibility is ultimately a personal one.

"After seeing this Airman's court martial, conviction and confinement, I would tell any servicemember who may be flirting with disaster to check his or her actions against the core values," Sergeant Bathe said. "The time will come when you're caught, but ask yourself two questions first: 'Would my family and God be proud of this?' and 'Would I be willing to take the punishment associated with my actions?'"

These actions led up to long days, gang showers, bunk beds and a forfeit of all privacy for Airman Hawkins. With about 12 months of confinement ahead of him before he returns to the civilian world, he stands by his message to Airmen.

"I grew up quickly and learned the hard way," Airman Hawkins said. "If you make bad decisions, eventually you will get caught. Period."

Ecstasy



What it is ...

Ecstasy, also known as "E," "XTC," "X" or "Adam," has been around in one form or another almost since the beginning of the 20th century.

Scientifically known as MDMA (3,4 Methylenedioxy-N-Methylamphetimine), it was first discovered in 1912 and patented as an appetite suppressant. It has never been produced on a commercial basis, but was used briefly by American psychotherapists as an aid to therapy before being outlawed in the mid-1980s.

Ecstasy is a stimulant drug with some of the properties of LSD. In its latest incarnation as a recreational drug, little is known about its long-term effects, with medical research only now exploring these potential problems. MDMA is a member of the phenylethylamine family of drugs, related chemically to both mescaline and amphetamine; hence it's description as a stimulant and/or hallucinogen.

What it does ...

The effects of MDMA last about four to six hours, and, according to users, it produces profoundly positive feelings, empathy for others, elimination of anxiety and extreme relaxation. It's said to suppress the need to eat, drink or sleep, enabling users to endure two- to three-day parties. This can result in severe dehydration or exhaustion, according to the DEA.

MDMA can cause other adverse effects including nausea, hallucinations, chills, sweating, increases in body temperature, tremors, involuntary teeth clenching, muscle cramping and blurred vision. MDMA users also report aftereffects of anxiety, paranoia and depression.

An MDMA overdose is characterized by high blood pressure, faintness, panic attacks and, in more severe cases, loss of consciousness, seizures and a drastic rise in body temperature. MDMA overdoses can be fatal, as they may result in heart failure or extreme heat stroke. (Courtesy of Tech. Sgt. Steve Elliott, Wilford Hall Medical Center Public Affairs Office)

Spangdahlem AB's Eifel Reunion 2005 kicks off this fall

By Capt. Tom Crosson
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Spangdahlem Air Base officials invite all former Spangdahlem Sabers and Bitburg Barons and their families to Eifel Reunion 2005, Sept. 16-18.

This three-day gala will celebrate 52 years of Americans in Germany's Eifel region. The event will also involve showcasing Spangdahlem's future.

"We want to invite back all of the Sabers and Barons who made this base what it is today," said Col. Dave Goldfein, 52nd Fighter Wing commander. "Fifty two years of German-American friendship here in the Eifel is what makes this such a magical place to live and work."

"We want to appropriately recognize and celebrate our rich past and boundless future as we open the new air mobility campus and celebrate the 58th birthday of our Air Force. I hope my fellow Sabers and Barons from across the globe can make it 'home' to the Eifel to celebrate with us," he said.

The theme of the Eifel Reunion is "52



Years of Friendship and Cooperation." Sabers, Barons and local nationals are encouraged to sit back, relax and exchange more than 50 years worth of stories and experiences during the upcoming events.

"This event is important for a multitude of different reasons," said Capt. Eric Schomburg, 52nd Communications Squadron mission systems flight commander and co-director of ground operations for the Eifel Reunion.

"Spangdahlem is in the process of gaining two new missions -- Rhein Main Transition Program and the Joint Fires Center of Excellence," Captain Schomburg said. "The foundations of these new missions were set many years ago by a large number of our predecessors."

"What a wonderful opportunity it is to be celebrating the beginning of these new missions with the Sabers who originally laid the

building blocks," Colonel Goldfein said.

Events also include a living history of Spangdahlem AB presentation.

Past Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Air Base wing commanders, as well as dozens of former host-nation employees and contractors, many of whom were involved in the original construction of the base in 1953, will share their historical stories with those in attendance at the Air Force Ball.

All current and former U.S. military service members, DOD or host-nation civilian employees, Department of Defense Education Activity staff and their family members who were previously assigned to Spangdahlem AB or Bitburg AB are invited to attend.

For information regarding registration, events, lodging and car rentals during Eifel Reunion 2005, people can visit www.spangdahlem.af.mil, or e-mail questions to eifelreunion2005@spangdahlem.af.mil.

(Senior Airman Eydie Sakura, 52nd FW/PA contributed to this story.)

Reunion information

♦ Rhein-Main Transition Program ramp ribbon-cutting ceremony, Sept. 16 from 2-5 p.m. at Spangdahlem AB, free

♦ Informal social gathering, Sept. 16 from 6-9 p.m. at Club Eifel, the cost is \$10

♦ Breakfast, Sept. 17 from 8:30-10 a.m. in Club Eifel; the cost is \$7.50

♦ Golf Tournament, Sept. 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Spangdahlem AB Eifel Mountain Golf Course; the cost is \$20

♦ Mosel River cruise, Sept. 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Departing Spangdahlem AB Eifel Arms Inn; the cost is \$40

♦ Air Force Ball, Sept. 17 from 6-10 p.m. in Hangar 1; the cost is \$25

♦ Brunch, Sept. 18 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Club Eifel; the cost is \$15

For details, visit www.spangdahlem.af.mil and click on Eifel Reunion 2005

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Capt. Thomas Crosson.....Public affairs chief
Capt. Mike Cumberworth.....PA deputy
Tech. Sgt. Pamela AndersonPA NCOIC
Senior Airman Amaani Lyle.....Editor
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Published by

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Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a
way to get answers to questions
you still have after using your
chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest
will be published in the *Eifel
Times* and may be edited or
paraphrased for brevity or clarity.
Submit your Direct Line via:

■ DirectLine@spangdahlem.
af.mil

■ Mailed to 52nd FW/PA,
Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE
09126

■ To PA in building 23.

■ Concerns may also be sent
via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are
accepted. To receive a personal
response you must include your
name and phone number. Call the
Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more
information.



Col. Dave Goldfein

**August
Sortie
Scoreboard**

Aircraft	Goal	Flown	Delta
22FS	421	41	-1
23FS	448	44	+3
81FS	358	25	0

*Delta is contract vs. sorties flown to date.

Through Aug. 2

Courtesy of the
52nd Operations Support Squadron
Plans and Scheduling Section

Viewpoint

Aug. 5, 2005

Page 5

Midsummer safety

Dental Squadron commander: Enjoy fun, sun this summer, but take steps to live responsibly

By Col. J.P. Fancher
52nd Dental Squadron commander

When I took command of the Dental Squadron in June, I reflected back on some of my experiences many years ago when I took over as the director of an enlistee clinical training course for dental technicians.

I was new to the Air Education Training Command teaching machine, but I quickly learned the critical value of frequently stressing safety to my unit members, coworkers and students.

Time lost from the job or training translates to lost mission support, missed opportunities for success and often times personal stress and occasionally tragedy. Our units find out quickly how important each individual is when someone is lost due to a mishap and cannot be replaced.

My words on safety boiled down to three critical items that represented three themes that guided over 1,200 students and residents to a flawless safety record over a nine-year period.

The three points of safe living are simply: wear sunscreen, drink plenty of water and do not ever drink alcohol and drive. My challenge in Saber country is to translate this message to the same kind of success.

The point of wearing sunscreen starts with basic protection of all exposed skin from harmful sun radiation, and it extends to living a proactive life of protecting your entire well-being.

Once the clouds roll in here in the Eifel, sun-

Time lost from the job or training translates to lost mission support, missed opportunities for success and often times personal stress and occasionally tragedy.

screen may seem unimportant, but also remember to protect yourself in many other ways.

Dress for the elements, hot or cold, wear appropriate protective clothing for all activities, and use good judgment and common sense to stay out of harm's way physically and emotionally.

Seek your adventures and use self-protection with a reasonable risk assessment in all that you do when you step out into the world.

Regular water is one of the simplest and most important keys to biological life. You can survive days without food, but not nearly as long without proper hydration. This is especially true in the warm months of summer when risk of dehydration is highest. Cold-weather experiences have also taught me the importance of drinking plenty of water in all climates.

Add good nutrition to your water intake and you will go a long way to maintaining your health in all environments. I once had a nutrition professor that reminded his classes that we are, after all, only made up of what we eat and drink.

Combat Nighthawk

Project officer discusses USAFE CSIP program Shares background, importance of program throughout MAJCOM

Capt. George Sconyers
606th Air Control Squadron

It's time to discuss the favorite subject of all company grade officers, senior noncommissioned officers and noncommissioned officers in the 52nd Fighter Wing ... Combat Nighthawk.

In trying to decide what to write for this article, I have settled on answering those questions that I get most -- first, though, a quick blurb on what the program is.

Combat Nighthawk is one of U.S. Air Forces in Europe's Combat Special Interest Programs which was implemented by Gen. Robert H."Doc" Foglesong, U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander, to develop leadership skills and increase operational awareness among CGOs, SNCOs, and NCOs by breaking down functional stovepipes while providing opportunities for interaction.

Now a bit on what the wing is required to do with this program. As with any major command run program, effectiveness is measured with metrics.

Metrics are counted on a rolling fiscal year and require 22 CGO/SNCO teams and 18 NCOs

a month. USAFE developed with these metrics by looking at the population of each group in the wing and applying a lower boundary of 65 percent of that population on the CGO/SNCO teams.

If you are a CGO or NCO assigned to Spangdahlem Air Base over the last year, there is a very good chance that you have been on a "sortie" recently -- this is because 65 percent of SNCOs is equivalent to 91 percent of CGOs. Interaction between CGOs and SNCOs is critical to the overall effectiveness of the program.

Now, to some of the hard questions. Why do we double up sorties on so many nights during the week?

With the mark to meet (22 CGO/SNCO pairs) I am required to double up two nights a month. If you look at the schedule, though, we double up a great deal more.

This has to be done in order to avoid scheduling sorties on down days and holidays. In July there were no shifts July 4-5 for Independence Day, or on July 18-19 and 21-22 for the Explore the Eifel week. Those metrics still have to be met though.

That is why it is very important for individu-

als to show up for shifts.

Take water with you when you travel, and make healthy choices when you eat. "Do not drink alcohol and drive," is more than a piece of advice. Living responsibly and making plans for safe transport must be a way of life that reduces risks for our society and helps remove bad outcomes following alcohol consumption.

There are many alternatives for transportation in the local area in case you or a friend consume alcohol and need help getting home. Get a ride with a non-drinking friend, call a cab, or call Airmen Against Drunk Driving at 06565-61-2233.

The members of my squadron also have my phone number with the promise of no judgment, no hassle if they should need help getting home safely. My patients, students, residents, unit members, and coworkers have been offered my personal contact numbers for emergencies throughout my entire professional career. Calls are truly rare, but always important.

Use sunscreen, drink plenty of water and do not drink alcohol and drive. Translate this simple advice to cover your personal protection, your physical well-being and responsible behavior in society and in everything you do. You'll go a long way to enjoying a safe summer season, exploring the wonders of Europe, and coming to work to support our missions.

als to show up for shifts.

This brings me to the next question: if the program is supposed to be voluntary with the intent of improving communications, isn't it counterproductive to schedule people repetitively? (It is -- and that is why we strive not to do it).

That being said, USAFE does not allow me to count an individual twice in the same fiscal year. So, if you have already done it and decide to volunteer to do it again, it doesn't count in our metrics.

If you are scheduled a second time, please contact your group point of contact me at 452-5627 or so that we can get you replaced.

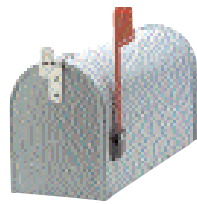
Bottom line is this is a great program. Once individuals go on a shift, the feedback given on the after action reports is excellent, because people are learning about functions on the base that they are normally never exposed to.

However, I am constrained by metrics that I must meet or the wing looks bad; and for those who are wondering -- General Foglesong does look at these numbers and does send feedback about his concerns.



Community Mailbox

Submit "Community Mailbox" advertisements 10 days before the desired publication date to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil.



T-shirt design contest

Develop a logo/design and submit it for the wing T-shirt design contest. The logo will be added to the standard black T-shirt and must encompass the entire wing. The design must not exceed five inches in diameter and must be on the left side of the chest. Designs will be voted on by the Spangdahlem Tier II and approved by the wing commander and command chief. Submission deadline is Aug. 31. For details, call Staff Sgts. Frank Araujo at 452-6514 or Patrick Compton at 452-5513.

Commissary closure

The Spangdahlem AB Commissary will be closed Wednesday. The Bitburg Commissary will remain open for regular hours from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Veterinary clinic hours

Now through Aug. 14, the Veterinary Clinic will be open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for retail sales and prescription refills only. There will be no veterinarian available during this time period, so pet owners should be sure they have a list of local veterinarians. A list is available from the Veterinary Clinic. For details, call 452-9388 or visit building 1094, Oberweis Annex.

First aid/CPR training

The American Red Cross offers first aid and CPR instructor's courses throughout August. The cost of the course, including all materials, is \$53. Course dates include:

- ♦ Aug. 13, fundamentals of instructor training
- ♦ Aug. 14, first aid and CPR instructor course
- ♦ Aug. 20, completion of first aid and CPR instructors course

For details, call the ARC at 452-9440 or 06565-61-9440.

JAM! block party

Team Eifel members, especially airmen basics to senior airmen, are invited to the JAM! block party Aug. 13 from 3-9 p.m. on the grassy knoll area by the

Spangdahlem AB post office. There will be games such as a hula hoop contest, frozen T-shirt contest, water balloon contest and a tug-of-war. There will also be volleyball and horseshoe games. The first sergeants will serve free hamburgers and hot dogs, while Top 3 will DJ and help sponsor the live band "Social Brutality." For more information, call Kim McElfresh at 452-7381.

Baby photo contest

People can bring their favorite 5x7 photo of their infant to Photo Express or bring their newborn to 24-month-old child to the Photo Express Portrait Studio Aug. 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to have their free portrait taken to enter the contest. No sitting fee, appointment or purchase is necessary, although portraits will be available for purchase. Call 06565-933589 for official contest rules.

Wanted: Stork Nesters

The Family Support Center seeks wing members to sponsor expectant mothers from Incirlik AB, Turkey, and Lajes Field, Azores. People who are interested in being a sponsor can call the FSC at 452-6422.

Batman appearance

People can get their picture taken with the famous caped crusader, Batman, Aug. 18 from 2-2:45 p.m. and 3-3:45 p.m. at Spangdahlem AB Skyline Theater. Batman is here to promote his new movie and to sign autographs. Children can enter a Batman giveaway drawing for a chance to win prizes. Prizes will be given away every 15 minutes. For more information, call Lisa Stevens at 452-6466.

Dental volunteer program

The 52nd Dental Squadron and American Red Cross Volunteer Dental Assistant Program class starts Sept. 12. Call Tech. Sgt. Thomas Lloyd at 452-8220 to sign up.

New student orientation

Bitburg High School invites all incoming ninth graders and new students grades 10-12 and their sponsors to attend

the BHS new student orientation Aug. 25 from 9 a.m. to noon in the BHS cafeteria. Students will have the chance to learn about academics, school activities and sports, meet teachers and tour BHS facilities. A separate section will focus on parents and information they need to make the upcoming school year successful for the students. For details, call Val McCamish at 452-9337.

SSEMC news

Membership meeting

The Spangdahlem Spouses and Enlisted Members Club will have a family barbecue Aug. 27 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the base pavilion. Each family should bring a side dish and lawn chairs. For more information, call Michelle Bertke at 06561-947639 or e-mail her at bertke96@hotmail.com.

Scrapbooking night

Get together for scrapbooking Aug. 30 from 8 p.m. to midnight at the Bitburg Annex chapel. People must bring their own supplies and snacks. For more information, call Michelle Bertke at 06561-947639 or e-mail her bertke96@hotmail.com.

Disneyland Paris trip

Spend a day with the Disney gang at the Disneyland Paris express trip Sept. 4. The bus departs the Bitburg Annex commissary at 4:30 a.m. and the Spangdahlem AB commissary at 5 a.m. The estimated return time is Sept. 5 at 2 a.m. To sign up or for more information, call Kristy Turner at 06561-946227 or e-mail her at trips@ssemc.org.

Rock concert

The rock band "Brickfoot" performs at the Brick House Aug. 26 at 9 p.m. The show is free for all military identification cardholders ages 18 and older. For more information, visit www.brickfoot.com.

One act auditions

To audition for a part in Act Eifel's upcoming Night of One Acts, visit the fitness center's aerobics room Aug. 27 at 10 a.m. Auditions will be for two one-act shows for a variety of parts for both men and women. For details, call Patti Porter at 452-7381.

Gospel extravaganza

Singers and musicians throughout the Eifel community and surrounding areas can come together for a "Gospel Music Praise and Worship" workshop with a guest clinician Aug. 15-19 at 6:30 p.m. each evening at the Bitburg Annex chapel, building 73. The workshop concludes with the extravaganza concert Aug. 20 at 3 p.m. at the Bitburg Annex chapel. For more information, call the chapel staff at 452-6711, or call Master Sgt. Bennie Lowe at 452-6290.



What's happening at Club Eifel?

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18TH 2 FOR 1 STEAK NIGHT



Two 11 oz. steaks, house salads, baked potatoes with sour cream, butter and green onions. Wine specials will also be available. This special event is by reservation only. There will be two seatings; 5-6:30 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m. being served in the fireside lounge. Club Eifel Members \$17.00; Nonmembers \$19.00.

Don't Just Sit Around The House!



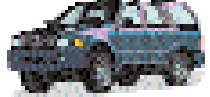
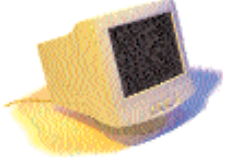

Wednesday, August 24 – NEW DATE!

"Back To School" Family Fun Night

5-8 p.m. School is almost back in session, and Club Eifel is throwing an end of summer vacation party! We will be giving out pencils, pens, pads of paper, backpacks and many more school time needs. The DJ will playing great tunes for the kids so they can dance and have a ball. We will also have the Kiddie Laser Light Show in the ballroom and a bouncy castle.

Members: Adults \$6.95, Children (6-12) \$3.95
Nonmembers: Adults \$9.95, Children (6-12) \$5.95
Children 5 and under eat FREE!





Der Markt

Free classifieds policy and submission deadlines

Der Markt is for the personal resale of items by military and civilian employees and their families. Items such as advertisements for rental property won't be published due to funded paper restraints. Ads should be 35 words or less and customers are limited to no more than two ads per week. Ads must be typed or printed legibly and turned into the public affairs office, building 23, at least **10 days before the desired date of publication**. Ads can also be e-mailed to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil or sent via fax to 452-5254. Having ads in by deadline does not guarantee publication. Ads for services generating regular income will not be published. The ads must include the sponsor's name and telephone number. Ads not meeting these requirements, including those exceeding the designated word limits, will not be printed. The *Eifel Times* staff reserves the right to edit ads.

Vehicles

2002 Ford Explorer XLS, 4X4, V6, 25,950 miles, in-dash DVD player, new brakes, four year warren-

ty remaining, \$15,500 OBO. Call 06565-93-3530 or 016091-500964.
2001 Chevy S-10 pickup, 4 cyl., 5-spd., 13,000 miles, soft tonneau bed

cover, CD, AC, sliding rear window, 26 MPG, \$8,000 OBO. Call 01511-555-0106 or evenings/weekends at 06553-901269.

1995 VW Polo 6N, apricot color, 197,000 km., sunroof, tanned windows in the rear, winter/summer tires w/ rims, \$3,000 OBO. Call 452-9503.

1995 BMW, 5-series, some damage to front end from guard rail, new tires, \$2,500 euro. OBO. Call 06575-901961 or 452-7375.

1994 Mitsubishi Pajero 4X4, blue and silver, 5-spd., sunroof, PW, PL, \$3,500 OBO. Call 06565-955666 or 0160-9527-6674.

1993 Audi 80, V6, 5-spd., 87,000 km., new brakes/radiator, \$2,700 OBO. Call 06565-933147.

1992 BMW 735i, black leather interior, Pioneer

stereo; all-power, sunroof, heated seats, winter/summer tires, \$4,000 OBO. Call 06578-985163.

Motorcycles

1996 Dyna Wide Glide (violet), like new, under 7,000 miles, lin. belt drive, 4.5 inch rear rim, 180 rear tire, rear struts were moved out for larger tire/fender, fat bars, \$8,995 OBO. Call 06561-694706.

1994 Kawasaki ZX-9R, 25,000 miles, new brakes/tires, stock and aftermarket exhaust systems, \$3,400 OBO. Call 06565-933147.

For Sale

All-leather girl shoes for ages 3 or 4, German size 25, dark blue, only

worn once, 15 euro.; music mobile for crib or changing table w/five colorful stuffed animals; 12 euro.; Lambskin foot sack for stroller, red cover, 30 euro.; all OBO. Call 452-6281 or 06562-3203 in the evenings or leave a message.

Motorcycle leathers, size lg., blue and white, includes size 8 (U.S.) and 42 boots (Euro.), \$75; black wall mount TV stand, fits 13-inch TV, \$20; 220v ceiling fan, box never opened, \$30; three wool area rugs, 2 m by 3 m (6.5 inch by 10 inch), light blue, red and mauve, floral designs, all three for \$350 or \$100 each; two plastic gas cans, each holds five gallons,

\$5 each. Call 06565-934176 or 0171-4108178.

JVC 21-inch multi-system/dual-voltage TV, \$70; Samsung DVD/VCR combo, \$60; Little Tykes desk w/chair, \$20; md. dog carrier, \$15; two 220v fans, \$10; 220v microwave, \$20; DSL box and router, \$50. Call 06565-955666 or 0160-9527-6674.

SKY receiver, \$350; mixer, \$25; dishwasher, \$250; 220v appliances. Call 02657-941237 after 6 p.m.

JVC Chameleon CD deck, like new, \$200 OBO. Call 0171-188-6041 or 452-9354.

All 220v: fans, transformers, cordless phone

w/answering machine, iron, toaster, coffee maker, carpets, all OBO; new ISDN equipment, \$40; pre-paid cell phone, \$20. Call 0175-800-8802 after 6 p.m.

Box spring for twin bed, new, still in plastic, \$60; U.S. specs washer/dryer, \$400; misc. used computer parts, best offer. Call 06562-974-341.

Three-seat blue sofa, \$130; entertainment center, \$70; baby walker, \$10; 17-inch computer monitor, \$15; Call 06525-936057.

Coffee table w/two end tables, \$90 for set; light oak TV stand w/glass doors, \$45; compact Kenwood home stereo system, amp., receiver,

7-CD, dual cassette, remote, \$175; wireless color video monitor for baby, audio/night vision, \$75. Call 06505-912558.

Pets

Rottweiler, one-year-old female, affectionate, good w/people, needs big yard, not compatible with other animals, had all shots, not spayed, \$200 w/kennel/supplies. Call 452-7375 or 06575-901961.

Six-year-old male cat, neutered, declawed. Call 06563-960311.

Yard Sale

Saturday at 8 a.m., Bitburg Annex housing, building 33, stairwell F.

Movies

The following movie listings are for today through Aug. 11. Times and movies are subject to change. For current information, call 06565-61-9441 or 452-9441. Movie synopses are available at www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp.

Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

The Longest Yard (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

Prison inmates form a football team to challenge the prison guards.

Crash (R, 9:30 p.m.)

A car accident brings together a group of strangers in Los Angeles.

Saturday

Kicking and Screaming (PG, 7 p.m.)

Family man Phil Weston, a lifelong victim of his father's competitive nature, takes on the coaching duties of a kids' soccer team, and soon finds that he's also taking on his father's dysfunctional way of relating.

Crash (9:30 p.m.)

Sunday

Herbie: Fully Loaded (PG, 4 p.m.)

Maggie Peyton, the new owner of Number 53 -- the free-wheelin' Volkswagen bug with a mind of its own -- puts the car through its paces on the road to becoming a NASCAR competitor.

Kicking and Screaming (7 p.m.)

Monday

Herbie: Fully Loaded (7 p.m.)

Tuesday

The Longest Yard (7 p.m.)

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Bitburg Castle

Today

Batman Begins (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

In the wake of his parents' murder, disillusioned industrial heir Bruce Wayne travels the world, seeking the means to fight injustice.

Mindhunters (R, 9:30 p.m.)

On a remote island, the FBI has a training program for their psychological profiling division, called "Mindhunters," used to track down serial killers. A group of young agents discover that one of them is a serial killer, slaying the others.

Saturday

Batman Begins (7 p.m.)

Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith (9:30 p.m.)

After three years of fighting in the Clone Wars, Anakin Skywalker begins his journey toward the Dark Side of the Force, putting his friendship with Obi Wan Kenobi at risk.

Sunday

Batman Begins (4 p.m.)

Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith (7 p.m.)

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

Batman Begins (7 p.m.)

Thursday

Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith (7 p.m.)

Gem of the Alps

Bavaria's Berchtesgaden offers picturesque views

By 2nd Lt. Maria Schmied
52nd Comptroller Squadron

While Garmisch and Switzerland are favored recreation areas for American military members, Berchtesgaden is a quiet corner of Germany often overlooked by eager travelers.

Located in the southernmost tip of Germany, nestled in the Alps and directly over the border from Salzburg, Austria, Berchtesgaden offers both a wide range of things to do and breathtaking scenery.

With the impressive Watzmann Mountain towering over Berchtesgaden, this town is a recreational haven offering some of the best hiking opportunities for all experience levels.

Because of the natural beauty, this region has been a favorite recreational playground of royalty and rulers throughout history. The Kehlstein Haus, or Eagle's Nest, is a testament to this, as it was Adolph Hitler's lodge where he came to relax. This historical site, located on top of Obersalzberg Mountain, can still be visited today.

To reach the lodge, visitors ride an elevator built in the mountain; the elevator shaft is an engineering feat having been cut straight through 124 meters of solid rock.

Other opportunities in town include visiting enzian distillery, where schnapps made from the roots of a local mountain flower is produced and sold. The distillery offers free tours and sam-



2nd Lt. Shannon Collins

A view of the Church of St. Bartholomew from the Königsee.

pling of the different varieties.

Since the tradition of distilling enzian dates back hundreds of years, this tour highlights how this local product is such a part of the mountain culture of this southern Bavarian town. On the backside of Berchtesgaden, one will find the pristine Königsee, or King's Lake.

Ride an electric boat on the emerald-green water to the Church of St. Bartholomew, where you can hike back to the Eiskappellen, the ice chapel, or dine on some Königsee rainbow trout. One of the intriguing features of Königsee is the echo wall, an acoustic

performance that must be experienced first-hand.

In downtown Berchtesgaden, make time to tour the royal palace. Or, take the family to visit the salt mines. Slide down long wooden slides and see how salt was mined from the heart of the mountains.

If you don't find yourself exhausted from hiking, remember Salzburg is right over the border, but you may have to save that for another trip.

To learn more about Berchtesgaden and the surrounding area, visit the Web site www.berchtesgadener-land.info.



Out and About



(Editor's note: Event dates and times are subject to change).

❑ A Country & Western festival takes place **today** through **Sunday** at the Neunkirchen sports grounds.



Courtesy photo

Medieval tales

A flag bearer shows off his skills at last year's medieval festival at the Castle-Palace of Vianden in Luxembourg. The event kicks off Saturday and runs daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. through Aug. 14. Enjoy history brought to life through the display and demonstration of knights in armor battling and training; traditional archery; handicrafts; and dances from the Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque periods, which include period music and costumes. For more information, visit www.castle-vianden.lu.

❑ Enjoy a wine festival with a fireworks display **today** through **Monday** in Trier-Olewig. This is a popular event.

❑ An oldtimer and tractor meeting takes place **Saturday** and **Sunday** at the Piesport Farmer's and Vintner's museum.

❑ Listen to classical organ music by Ennio Cominetti from Italy **Wednesday** at the Trier Konstantin Basilica.

❑ Enjoy an open-air pop and rock concert **Aug. 13-14** in the town of Salmtal.

❑ Attend the Trittenheim wine festival **Aug. 13-14**. The city of Trittenheim has a partnership community with the base.

❑ *Information, Tickets and Travel tours:* Rhein in Flames in Koblenz, **Aug. 13**, \$115 per person; Payless tour in Brussels, Belgium, **Aug. 13**, \$39 per person; Cologne Zoo and Aquarium, **Aug. 13**, \$48 for adults and \$42 for children ages 3-12; and Paris Express, **Aug. 13**, \$109 for adults and \$99 for children ages 3-12. For details, call ITT at 452-6567.

Looking for something to do?

Check out the "Explore the Eifel" Web site at:

http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/ExploreEifel/event_list.asp

Walk this way

Retired AF TSgt logs more than 56,000 kilometers in 25 years

By Senior Airman Eydie Sakura
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

His doctor told him about 12 years ago to walk at least 15 minutes each day to regulate his diabetes. Little did that physician know that Tech. Sgt. (ret.) Frank Miller would take him seriousl, and log more than 56,000 kilometers in Volksmarches throughout Europe.

The 69-year-old Connecticut native has been living in the Eifel region since his retirement from the Air Force back in 1975. He began logging his walks, or Volksmarches, in 1980.

"Each march I participate in, I get a stamp with the date and the distance walked," Mr. Miller said. "There are several hundred marches each summer in the local area, and I've participated in many throughout Europe. That is how I've been able to log so many kilometers over the years."

Mr. Miller, a lifetime member of the Eifel Wanderers, sais he would rather get his exercise while being out in the community rather than working out inside of a gymnasium.

"Why would I spend my time run-



Courtesy photo

Mr. Miller receives a bouquet of flowers near the completion of the four-day Nijmegen Walk in 1999.

ning at the gym when I can see the rich history of our region, experience the local culture by meeting new friends and witness all the war time stuff," he said. "I've had the privilege of meeting and walking with both American and German World War II soldiers, as well as meeting people from all across the world."

Meeting people and gaining souvenirs is just part of the fun for a man whose jacket is loaded with patches from various 100-kilometer walks (roughly 63 miles).

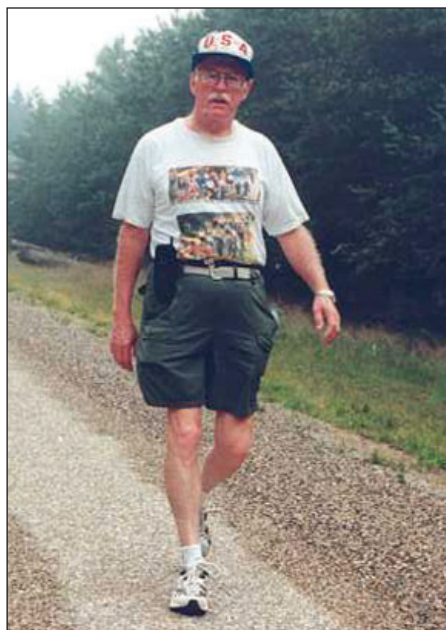
"I did my first 100-kilometer walk in Bastogne, Belgium, in 1985, where I walked the perimeter of the site of the Battle of the Bulge," Mr. Miller said. "Since then, I've collected the walk patches for those big events -- where it can take me up to 16 hours to complete the walk."

Mr. Miller's love of walking is evident to anyone who has ever met him - especially to his friends who say he is deeply involved in his walking.

"I've known Frank for about 35 years, and no distance is too short, nor too far for him to put on his walking shoes and get to stepping to it," said Mr. George Price, 52nd Services Squadron special events coordinator. "You don't have to be a teenager or a gifted athlete to do your thing, and I have never known a more dedicated person than Frank."

His dedication to walking and meeting new life-long friends is a key attribute in his personality.

"My wife and I have walked the four-day Nijmegen Walk in Holland with Frank three times now," said Tech. Sgt. James Lopez, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron heating, ventilation and air conditioning NCOIC and member of the Eifel Wanderers. "For his age, he's



Courtesy photo

Frank Miller, retired Air Force technical sergeant, takes part in the famous four-day Nijmegen Walk throughout the Netherlands in mid-July. This year is Mr. Miller's 22nd year walking the course.

in great shape and could walk circles around any active duty troop at Spangdahlem -- I'd bet money on it."

Mr. Miller has worked at the Spangdahlem Air Base Burger King for the past nine years taking care of the dining room, and doing this he walks about six kilometers a day at his job.

For more information on the Eifel Wanderers and Volksmarching, visit www.volksmarch.com/index.html, www.eifelwanderers.privat.t-online.de or e-mail them at eifelwanderers@hotmail.com.

They also hold monthly meetings at the Stein Reiter Gasthaus in Metterich (off of B-50, halfway between Spangdahlem and Bitburg) on the last Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Skelton Memorial Fitness Center's August aerobics, spinning classes

Monday, 6 a.m., spinning strength and endurance; 9 a.m., 5 for 2; 11:30 a.m., aerobics strength and endurance; 11:30 a.m., spinning strength and endurance; 3:30 p.m., circuit training; 5 p.m., kickboxing

Tuesday, 6 a.m., spinning interval; 11:30 a.m., spinning strength and endurance; 3:30 p.m., Hard Core; 5 p.m., Legs, Abs and Butt (LAB)

Wednesday, 6 a.m., spinning strength and endurance; 9 a.m., LAB; 11:30 a.m., aerobics strength and endurance; 11:30 a.m., spinning strength and endurance; 3:30 p.m., circuit training

Thursday, 6 a.m., spinning interval; 11:30 a.m., spinning interval; 3:30 p.m., Hard Core; 5 p.m., LAB

Friday, 6 a.m., spinning strength and endurance; 11:30 a.m., kickboxing

For more information on classes, call the fitness center at 452-6496.

Eifel Mountain Golf Course events

Base Championship -- Aug. 20-21 at 8 a.m.

First place in each flight will receive advanced greens fees for one year. It is open to active duty military only. Stroke play format -- Saturday's round will determine Sunday's flight. The cost is \$35.

Eifel Mountain Kids Classic -- Aug. 24 at 10:30 a.m.

The tournament is set up by ages groups: 8-9, 10-12 and 13-15. A patio cookout immediately follows the tournament. Sign up deadline is Aug. 21, and the cost is \$10 (includes greens fees and cookout).

For more information, call the golf course at 452-4653 (GOLF)



Sports Briefs

Eifel swim team

The Eifel Sharks swim team is looking for swimmers for the upcoming season. Swimmers should have some swimming experience and be between the ages of 6-18. A swim team meeting takes place Aug. 16 at 6 p.m. at the Bitburg Annex Teen Center. For details, call Donald and Sherry Odom at 06575-901213, or Glenn and Donna Turnbull at 06561-695512.

Challenging run

The wing Challenge Run scheduled for today has been postponed until Aug. 12. The even starts at noon from the Spangdahlem AB Fitness Center. Squadron teams of three females and three males compare their race times on a 1.5 mile run. Call Juergen Stockemer at 452-6251 to register.

Weightlifting tourney

A bench press competition takes place Aug. 19 at noon in the Spangdahlem AB fitness center. Categories include light, middle and heavyweight classes for men and women. The cost is \$10, and prizes are awarded to first-place winners in each category. Registration deadline is Aug. 15. Call Juergen Stockemer at 452-6634 to register.

Running club

Get in the running with the running club. They meet every Tuesday at 5 p.m. and hit the streets to stay in shape. There will be 10 races in the season -- nine 5K and one 10K. The cost is \$5 per person. Pre-registration is required. For details, call the fitness club at 452-6496.

Tai Chi classes

The health and wellness center offers Tai Chi Quan classes Mondays and Wednesdays from noon to 1 p.m. in the HAWC yoga room. Tai Chi is for people interested in inward martial arts, meditation in movement and relaxation. For details, call Klaus van den Boom at 452-7233.

Fitness equipment training

Training classes for the proper use of fitness equipment in the Spangdahlem AB fitness center take place Fridays at 9 a.m. free of charge. Call 452-6634 for details.

European football camp

The 2005 Central European Football Camp will be held Aug. 16-19 in Ansbach. Athletes will need a current physical and medical power of attorney. Call Bitburg High School at 452-9202 for more information.

Martial arts

♦ Kuk Sool Won covers Asian fighting techniques and body conditioning, as well as mental development and traditional weapons training. Classes are held Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m., and Fridays from 5-7 p.m. in the Spangdahlem AB Fitness Center. For details, call Sean Heard at 452-6193.

♦ An Aikido class takes place at the Bitburg Annex Fitness Center Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-6:30 p.m. The instructor is Brent Silva. For details, call the Bitburg Annex Fitness Center at 452-6634.

Massage, personal trainer

People interested in massage therapy can call Alwine Ramirez at 06574-900300 or Megan Guy at 06563-962534. Those in need of a personal trainer can call Suzanne Mann at 0170-2175208.

Twilight Golf

Hit the golf course any time after 6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays for Twilight Golf at the Eifel Mountain Golf Course. The cost is \$6 per person, and golfers can play until the sun goes down. Cart fees are not included. For more information, call the golf course at 452-4653.